

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF JOHNNIE LEE
PATRICK II

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a patriotic American, Johnnie Lee Patrick II. Mr. Patrick lived in Estill County, Kentucky and passed away on January 10, 2022, at the age of 46.

Mr. Patrick served our nation proudly in the Kentucky National Guard for more than twenty years. Following the terrorist attacks on our nation on September 11, 2001, Mr. Patrick joined the 149th Infantry "Charlie Company" in Ravenna. He was attached to posts in Louisville, Burlington, Richmond, and Jackson. He was deployed for two tours in the Middle East.

Mr. Patrick attained the rank of Sgt. 1st Class and was a member of the 207th Engineer Company in Jackson, Kentucky. While on active duty with the Southwest Border Mission in El Paso, Texas, he passed away on January 10, 2022. He was laid to rest with full military honors.

Mr. Patrick is survived by his wife, Jackie Lynn Bowling Patrick, his sons Alexander Matthew Patrick and Ryan Alan Patrick, and a large, loving, extended family.

Sgt. 1st Class Johnnie Lee Patrick II was a true patriot and a great American. His service and sacrifice are greatly appreciated and must never be forgotten. It is my honor to lift up the life of Johnnie Lee Patrick II.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to National Children's Dental Health Month. Each February, the American Dental Association sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of oral health. As a part of their awareness efforts, dentists and dental team members from across the country and in my home State of Idaho join together and volunteer their time to provide free care to children. As co-chair of the Congressional Oral Health Caucus, I am pleased to support National Children's Dental Health Month and any related activities taking place throughout the month of February that promote good oral health for children.

Give Kids A Smile, a program sponsored by the ADA Foundation which this year celebrates 20 years of helping children, is at the center of National Children's Dental Health Month. Give Kids a Smile Day is an important event for all children and dentists throughout the country. Because of this program, the ADA

Foundation is able to provide assistance to more than 6,500 dentists and 25,000 dental team member volunteers who proudly give their time and expertise to make a difference in the health of children. Since this program started, volunteers have graciously provided services to over 7 million kids across the country, and in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. They have truly made a huge impact in their communities and improved the oral health of so many children.

Throughout National Children's Dental Health Month, dentists and dental team members across the country will be providing oral health services for children in need, and this will continue throughout the year. These services will include oral health education, screenings, preventive care and restorative services. Some will provide this in their own dental practice, others will go right into schools and the community to reach the kids that need it most. There are also many major events at dental hygiene schools where hundreds of kids may receive oral health services.

Continued public awareness on this issue is critical. On behalf of the Congressional Oral Health Caucus, I would once again like to state our full endorsement for National Children's Dental Health Month, and push for continued care for the excellent oral health of children.

HONORING THE BLACK STUDENTS' ALLIANCE AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a student organization that gives the Black community at Michigan State University a platform to let their voices be heard: The Black Students' Alliance.

Founded in 1967 in the basement of MSU's, then associate professor, Dr. Robert L. Green's home, the Black Students' Alliance was created as a way to voice support for those protesting racial injustice and increase representation of black students on campus. Green's mentee and co-founder, Barry D. Amis, was frustrated that he could only see what seemed to be about 400 black students in a campus population of over 40,000, not at all reflective of Michigan's 10 percent African-American population.

When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4th, 1968, Amis and other members of the Black Students' Association organized a protest on MSU's campus. Student groups came together and demanded that they do more to integrate the history and culture of the Black community onto campus. Not only did the students request courses on African American studies, they challenged the university's lack of Black residence hall staff, counselors, and professors. They wanted to

be represented. They wanted to be seen. They wanted to be heard.

Today, more than 50 years after its founding, the Black Students' Alliance continues to be the main voice for Black students on MSU's campus. With enrollment for Black students now close to 8 percent of the student population, the BSA's main focus is on supporting academic growth and increasing graduation rates for black students.

I am so proud of the way BSA President Kenneth Franklin, and his board of directors, advocate for and support the black student population by connecting them with the local black community in all aspects of campus life: socially, academically, and through mentorship programs. By focusing their efforts on results-driven actions to create a diverse support system, the Black Students' Alliance is working to redefine the Black experience at Michigan State University.

For its steadfast support for generations of Black students at MSU, and for its lasting contributions to the entire MSU community, I submit the story of the Black Students' Alliance so that it may be remembered forever.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
BISHOP CALVIN W. WOODS, SR.
AS-PRESIDENT OF THE BIRMINGHAM CHAPTER OF THE
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership of Bishop Calvin W. Woods, Sr., the president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Birmingham Chapter, who is retiring after 15 wonderful years of service to the Birmingham community.

Bishop Woods obtained his Bachelor of Arts from Miles College before continuing his education at Birmingham Baptist College. He went on to complete multiple degrees at the Universal Bible Institute, Union Baptist Seminary, and the School of Truth. Diversifying his education, Bishop Woods is also a graduate of the Urban Training Center for Christian Missions and obtained a certificate for police communications from Samford University.

In 1956, Bishop Woods joined his brother Reverend Abraham L. Woods, Jr., and Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth to co-found the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights (ACMHR). Through this, Bishop Wood began the journey of what would become six decades of courageous leadership throughout the Civil Rights Movement. Working closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Bishop Woods was an audacious leader during the Civil Rights Movement. Supporting the work of Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth, Bishop Woods challenged segregation directly, participating in numerous demonstrations, including

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the Birmingham Campaign and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963. Though his participation in the movement resulted in him being beaten, arrested, and fired from his job, he continued to fight for justice and equality for all, planning strategies for public protests following the shooting of five African Americans who had been protesting at a supermarket during the 1960s and filing a lawsuit on behalf of the youth suspended from school during the demonstration to ensure that they could be re-instated.

As a result of his tenacity and dedication, Bishop Woods was appointed by Dr. King as the SCLC City Convener for the Birmingham Ministers Leadership Conference. In this position, Bishop Woods was responsible for educating ministers concerning Black history, picketing, housing, direct non-violent protesting, voter registration, and negotiations to ensure that they were fully equipped to continue leading their congregations throughout the movement.

Apart from his work as a Civil Rights leader, Bishop Woods has continued to play a vital role in the Birmingham community through his various community affiliations and as the pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, where he has led the congregation for the past 34 years. Bishop Woods has served in multiple capacities including, board member of the Birmingham Board of Education at Parker High School in Discipline and Administration; evening supervisor for the Park High Community School; counselor, group worker, and center director for the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity; and board member of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. His additional community affiliations include former president of the New Era Baptist State Convention of Alabama; former ViceChair of the Board of Trustees of the Birmingham Easonian Baptist Bible College; and former National Chaplain of the SCLC. Today, at the age of 80, he continues to champion the cause for human rights serving currently as Vice President of the National Southern Christian Leadership Conference and as a member of the National Board of Directors of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. On a personal note, the contributions that Bishop Woods made to ensure the equal rights of all Americans during the Civil Rights Movement are truly exemplary. To call him an icon of the movement is an understatement. His unwavering commitment to improving the lives of Black Alabamians has earned him a unique place in history. It was because of his courage, sacrifice, and conviction that so many of us now have the leadership positions we do today. We owe Bishop Woods a debt that we cannot repay. I hope the knowledge that his legacy of extraordinary service will live on and the many people he has impacted will be and a source of great pride during his retirement. Thank you for being such a powerful agent for change. On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary leadership and service of Bishop Calvin W. Woods, Sr., and his contributions to not only the community of Birmingham as President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Birmingham Chapter but to the world as a Civil Rights leader.

IN HONOR OF THE MARRIAGE OF
NICOLE YADON AND KYLE SMITH

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nicole Yadon and Kyle Smith on the occasion of their marriage. This special day is worthy of commendation.

Nicole (Nikki) Yadon is a Michigan native and University of Michigan graduate. She met her husband, Kyle Smith, in 2013 while both were students at the University of Michigan. They had their first official date at The Prickly Pear in Ann Arbor. After Kyle graduated from Michigan in 2015, Kyle and Nikki dated long distance for a year and a half while Nikki was still in school. They travelled back and forth from Ann Arbor to San Francisco, Columbus, San Antonio, and Washington, D.C. to be together—they made sure to visit all of the best diners in each city along the way.

Nikki has always had a love for politics and government. She interned at the Democratic Governors' Association in the summer of 2016, then for State Rep. Donna Lasinski's campaign in the fall of 2016, culminating with an internship in my office. After interning in the district office from January through May 2017 and graduating from the University of Michigan, Nikki moved to Washington, D.C. to continue her career in politics and worked for the people of Michigan's 12th District on Capitol Hill from June through August 2017. Since then, she has since worked for the Democratic Governors' Association in a variety of capacities, and currently serves as Director of Events.

In September 2019, two years after Nikki and Kyle moved in together and became dog parents to Bandit, their favorite border collie, Kyle proposed to Nikki at her parents' house in Troy, Michigan. Through working from home together during COVID in 2020, their love for each other continued to grow. Kyle and Nikki officially got married in a small, COVID-safe ceremony in Washington, D.C. on May 22, 2021. They are looking forward to spending their 11-month anniversary with friends and family at the rescheduled wedding celebration in Newport, RI on April 30, 2022.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nicole and Kyle. I join with the couple's family and friends in extending my best wishes to them on this special day and wish them happiness and blessings in the years to come.

HONORING TRINITY AME CHURCH,
LANSING

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of Lansing's African-American faith community: Trinity AME Church. For over 150 years, the area's oldest black church has knit itself into the fabric of its community, serving folks in ways that are too many to count.

Trinity was founded in 1866 with only 21 members, and today it boasts a congregation

more than 400 strong. Its roots in the Lansing community run deep, having been cultivated by generations of devoted congregants. Take a look around the pews on a Sunday and you'll see folks who have been coming to Trinity for decades. They come to say a prayer or chat with an old friend—to enjoy those little moments of community and humanity.

Some have been members of Trinity AME for decades, like former MSU Athletic Director, and 2017 inductee into the MSU Hall of Fame, Clarence Underwood. He first joined in 1958 while studying at MSU, and never looked back.

Trinity's impact reaches far beyond the walls of the church building off West Holmes Road. From youth programs, scholarships, clothing drives and more, Trinity and its congregation are devoted to supporting the people of Lansing. The congregation has also reached out beyond their immediate community, like helping the residents of Flint during its water crisis.

With such a spirited and steadfast congregation, it is no surprise that Trinity is headed up by such a vibrant pastor. Pastor Lila Martin is the first woman to take the pulpit, and she has risen to the occasion.

From getting kids involved in the services, to returning the church to its role as a vital part of the community, she is shepherding her congregation into a new era in its long history.

Pastor Martin ends her sermons with, "Maybe you're without a church home, then I invite you to allow Trinity to be your church home, we will accept you." Her steadfast effort to open Trinity's doors to all who may need it is felt each and every week.

With in-person services returning and the congregation stronger than ever, the future looks bright for Trinity. Its history, members, and presence in the community is an essential part of Lansing, and I am proud that its impact will be forever known.

RECOGNIZING THE VICTIMS OF
THE BAKU AND SUMGAI PO-
GROMS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 34th anniversary of the Sumgait pogrom and the 32nd anniversary of the Baku pogrom.

Hundreds of Armenian civilians living in the city of Sumgait in Azerbaijan suffered horrific acts of violence when they were indiscriminately killed, raped, maimed, and burned alive in a pogrom that started on February 27, 1988. Almost two years later, a seven-day pogrom broke out in Baku during which Armenians were beaten, murdered, and expelled from the city beginning January 12, 1990. Over 90 Armenian civilians were killed, over 700 were injured, and countless other victims were permanently displaced by the ethnic violence that followed.

The Azerbaijani Government was complicit in each of these atrocities by using violent rhetoric in rallies leading up to the pogrom and by doing nothing to halt the ensuing violence against Armenian citizens. Azerbaijan has taken steps over the last two decades to cover up these crimes against humanity and dismiss

the atrocities committed in Sumgait and Baku. Even more disturbing, the Azeri Government lauded the perpetrators of this event and similar violent attacks.

President Aliyev's regime continues to use hateful rhetoric against Armenians to this day, including in the build up to Azerbaijan's deadly attacks on Artsakh in the fall of 2020. Azeri forces, Turkish drones, and Turkish-backed foreign terrorists conducted a premeditated attack that violated international law. The resulting indiscriminate bombing campaigns against large population centers killed thousands of Armenians and displaced tens of thousands more. It also included appalling war crimes against Armenians at the hands of Azerbaijani forces and foreign mercenaries that included beheadings, torture, and other abhorrent acts of violence.

I continue to stand with the Armenian people in condemning the horrific pogroms and in mourning the loss of those who were senselessly killed in Artsakh and subsequent Azeri attacks on Armenian soil. It is critical for the United States to recognize and denounce violent assaults against all civilians. If we do not condemn or punish crimes against humanity and ethnic violence, we become passive bystanders, failing to live up to the lessons of the 20th century and our pledge to uphold human rights and democratic values all over the world. If we do not take a firm stand against those who commit atrocities, it will embolden them and encourage others to commit heinous acts in the future. These lessons are especially important as we prepare to commemorate the 107th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in April.

I will continue to work with my colleagues on the Congressional Armenian Issues Caucus to honor the victims of the Baku and Sumgait pogroms and the victims of Azerbaijani aggressions in Artsakh. I will also continue to condemn all acts of violence against people who are targeted simply because of who they are. I hope my colleagues will join me in rejecting violent rhetoric, intimidation and outright violations of human rights. In doing so, we renew our commitment to achieving a lasting peace in the Caucasus.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY MASSACRE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, this week marks the 30th anniversary of the massacre of hundreds of people in the town of Khojaly, Azerbaijan. Khojaly, which is in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, was once home to 7,000 people. On February 26, 1992, in the largest killing of ethnic Azerbaijani civilians during the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict, Armenian armed forces massacred over 600 unarmed people—including 106 women, 63 children and 70 elderly people—and left less than 2,000 survivors. Hundreds more became disabled due to their injuries. More than 100 children lost a parent and 25 children lost both parents, and at least 8 families were entirely killed.

Although a cease-fire was negotiated in 1994, it is my hope that Armenia and Azer-

baijan can come together and find peace. The conflict remains unresolved, and we saw an unfortunate escalation of conflict in 2020 in the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Long-term peace, security, and regional cooperation are in the best interests of the entire region of the South Caucasus and the world.

Azerbaijan has been a strong partner of the United States and its allies. This cooperation has included: playing a leadership role in non-proliferation issues; providing troops to serve shoulder-to-shoulder with U.S. forces in Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan; allowing transit of non-lethal equipment used by coalition forces through Azerbaijan to Afghanistan; construction of the Southern Gas Corridor from the Caspian Sea to Italy, thereby providing Europe with an alternative to Russian energy sources; and supplying 40 percent of Israel's oil. Azerbaijan also has a thriving Jewish community and has outstanding relations with Israel.

As Azerbaijanis throughout the world commemorate the massacre and continue to grieve the loss of loved ones, I hope they can find peace amidst this tragedy.

HONORING GEORGE JEWETT

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor George Jewett, a legend of the gridiron, a physician, and an entrepreneur who blazed a trail through the history of both football and race relations, breaking barriers and records at every turn, including a forward pass through Howell, Michigan.

Intelligent, driven, and athletically blessed, George was a classic all-American, and he was also an African-American at a time when Jim Crow was tightening its grip on the country.

Valedictorian of the class of 1889 at Ann Arbor High School, Jewett captained the football and baseball teams—as well as the debate club. He was the fastest sprinter in the Midwest, and was fluent in German, Italian, and French. He went on to attend the University of Michigan, becoming the first African American in the school's history to letter in football, and ultimately one of its greatest stars.

Though he excelled on the field and in the classroom, Jewett endured racial taunts and physical abuse on and off the field. A newspaper during Jewett's time aptly described him as "a brilliant player who stands punishment with indifference."

Jewett transferred to Northwestern University in 1893 where he suited up for the Wildcats, becoming the first Black player for that school's football team as well. Upon graduating from medical school in 1895, he returned to Michigan where Howell Public Schools Superintendent Robert Briggs hired the doctor as coach of the first official Howell High School football team.

Now, high school sports had different rules and norms in the late 1800s, with teams composed of both student athletes and local residents who would join them. And that is how Dr. George Jewett became not just the first Black coach of a Michigan high school football team, but also a teammate.

To fundraise for the new team, Mr. Jewett hosted a gala at the Howell Opera House, a lavish event featuring food, music, and demonstrations of football plays.

By all accounts it was a smashing success, and if it hadn't been for that event, we might never have known about the remarkable role George Jewett played in Howell's history.

A program from his fundraiser was recently found under the floorboards of the Howell Opera House during its renovation, connecting this trailblazing legend to the community, and forever cementing his role in Howell history.

Last fall, the George Jewett Trophy—the first rivalry trophy in major college football named for an African American player—debuted in Ann Arbor when the University of Michigan played Northwestern University. And from now on, the George Jewett Trophy will be played for, each and every time the two programs meet on the field.

I'm so proud to see George Jewett's cultural, academic, and athletic accomplishments solidified, immortalized and set in stone.

It is my honor to record his name and his story so that all who read it may catch inspiration from his groundbreaking achievements—So that we too may tackle our current challenges with the same dedication and perseverance he brought to every aspect of his life—And so that each of us may lace up our shoes, march onto the field, and pass on his legacy of triumph over adversity, and indifference to punishment.

REMEMBERING DEAN 'DINO' CORTOPASSI

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dean "Dino" Cortopassi and his legacy as a loving family man, career farmer, and champion of communities in the Delta area. Patti and I are deeply saddened by Dino's passing, and our hearts are with Joan and their family during this difficult time.

Dino was born and raised in Stockton, California, as the son of immigrant farmers. After graduating high school Dino proceeded to study farming at the prestigious agricultural school at the University of California, Davis. In 1958, Dino took on his first job as a grain buyer through which he immersed himself in the world of managing goods, markets, and the art of running a successful agribusiness. In the same year, he married his high school sweetheart Joan DeCarli and they both went on to raise four remarkable children, Gino, Katie, Becky, and David.

While Dino continued to build on his success as a dynamic and innovative farmer and businessman, he also fell in love with the Delta. An avid fisherman and hunter, Dino became a powerful advocate and protector of the Delta's waterfowl and their habitats. His efforts were crucial to preventing the proposed Delta tunnels project from devastating the region's ecosystems. Dino founded the Wetlands Preservation Foundation, which continues to help conserve the Delta's natural habitats.

In 2005 he was named the Stocktonian of the Year. Dino's Life's work undoubtedly had

an indelibly positive impact on the Delta community and inspired those around him. He was a dear friend for whom I have the deepest respect and admiration. He will be deeply missed as Patti and I send our condolences to Joan and the Cortopassi family.

HONORING DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER JONATHAN MARSHALL FOR 34 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CABARRUS COUNTY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jonathan Marshall for 34 years of service to Cabarrus County, including a decade of service as Deputy County Manager. I have seen his extraordinary leadership firsthand and how much he means to our community.

Mr. Marshall began his career with Cabarrus County in 1988 as a land-use planner and retires after more than three decades of service. Exemplary in his innate understanding of the relationship between people and land, he held the positions of Senior Planner, Planning Services Director, and Commerce Director before being named Deputy County Manager in December 2011.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Marshall has exhibited exceptional commitment and dedication to improving our community. He has led Cabarrus County through a time of unprecedented growth and his work will be felt for generations to come. Mr. Marshall's early efforts on the western area plan, for example, helped to sustain economic growth resulting from land development around Charlotte Motor Speedway and Concord Mills. He has also fostered a unique culture of collaboration between community stakeholders, and relationships between the County and municipalities have flourished under his extraordinary leadership.

I would like to extend my most heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Marshall for his years of exemplary service to Cabarrus County. I know I speak for our entire community in wishing he and his wife Debbie continued success and happiness as they move on to their next great adventure.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Jonathan Marshall upon his retirement as Deputy County Manager of Cabarrus County.

HONORING REV. DR. MELVIN T. JONES

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Doctor Melvin T. Jones as the dedicated Senior Pastor of the Union Missionary Baptist Church in Lansing, Michigan. He has stood at the forefront of fighting for justice since he was a child, and continues to do so throughout the Greater Lansing community today. He is a living testimony of using one's life to serve others.

At 78 years old, Pastor Jones is a model and inspiration for generations of citizens and faith leaders in our community. He has served at Union Missionary Baptist Church for 37 years, and is often referred to as "The Patriarch," because nothing happens in the Lansing community without seeking his wisdom, guidance, and support.

Every community has a guiding light, that someone who serves as the force to bring others together to drive change, and in the Lansing faith community, that someone is Pastor Melvin T. Jones. More than a decade ago, he became founder and Chairman of GLADE, currently known as ACTION of Greater Lansing, an interdenominational justice ministry of churches. Pastor Jones has served as President of The Greater Lansing Clergy Forum, Co-President of ACTION of Greater Lansing, and most recently helped shape the Assembly of Lansing Pastors to address gun violence.

He has received numerous awards and honors, both civic and national including an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Dallas Baptist Christian College, and he is currently completing a Doctor of Ministry degree program at Ashland Theological Seminary.

Pastor Jones has accomplished all of this while still devoting himself to his family: his wife Sallie of more than 50 years, and their five grown children.

As Pastor Jones prepares for retirement, he will be remembered for his faithful leadership that positively changed the direction of the city and impacted individuals and families for the better. He will be known for the inspiration and love he brought to Lansing, but also for the many pastoral leaders he mentored over many decades.

I have no doubt that even after retirement he will continue to be a voice for Lansing, and a strong supporter for those in need. While we will miss his voice in the house of worship, it is my great honor to record his many good works in so that they may live forever.

CELEBRATING WHITE OAK LIBRARY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The White Oak Library on 100 years of service to the community.

In 1922, the Lockport Woman's Club began a volunteer library and led a seven-year fight to solidify the library as a mainstay in the community. The library has persevered, putting the needs of the people first, changing locations and selling land to mirror the ever changing community landscape. A couple of location and name changes later, the Lockport Women's Club's vision has surpassed their initial dreams, with not one, but three libraries serving the greater Crest Hill, Lockport, and Romeoville communities.

The White Oak Library's mission is to be a community anchor while balancing innovation and tradition. The library leaders and staff have tirelessly met this mission with offerings ranging from Citizenship Prep and English-Second Language classes, STEM Fest, Grandparents Day, and various children, teen and adult programming. The thoughtful and

far-reaching goals of the White Oak Library are met every day.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the communities White Oak Library serves, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this milestone with best wishes for many more to come.

CONGRATULATING DR. NORIS PRICE

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baldwin County Schools Superintendent Dr. Noris Price for being named the Georgia 2022 Superintendent of the Year.

Dr. Price has more than 35 years of experience in public education. She has served as an Associate Superintendent for Clarke County Schools, a Principle in Fairfax, Virginia, and as an elementary school teacher in New York City.

Dr. Price was selected by the Georgia School Superintendents Association for her leadership ability, communication skills, and unwavering dedication to education.

During her tenure in Baldwin County, Dr. Price made tremendous strides to increase the high school graduation rate from 66 percent to 90 percent. She is also responsible for securing more than \$ eight million in grants for Baldwin County Schools.

This year brings additional recognition for Dr. Price's success and dedication as she was named a top four finalist for the 2022 U.S. National Superintendent of the Year award. These educators represent the bold and innovative work that is needed to ensure student success in communities across the country.

I am proud of Dr. Price's dedication to the future generation of Georgia's 10th Congressional District, and I wish her continued success.

HONORING THELMA LETT

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the story of a courageous Black woman from Brighton who would not sit down when faced with racism, hatred, and bigotry.

Thelma Lett did not grow up in Livingston County, but moved there from Detroit in 1976 with her husband. She was an avid churchgoer and involved in many community organizations, as she and her husband raised their two children, Paul and Keith.

But it was her involvement with the Livingston Diversity Council, then known as Livingston 2001, that drew headlines and propelled this quiet woman into the local spotlight.

Eager to champion the cause of diversity in the mostly white county, she joined the organization in 1988, its founding year—the same year a cross was burned on the property of a Black family in the county. She's credited with helping to grow the group and support for the cause with her dynamic, can-do style.

Here's what some former friends and colleagues had to say about Thelma: "A tremendous go-getter."

"You just had a smile on your face after talking to her," and,

"I would put a great deal of the success of the membership on her leadership."

But it's what SHE had to say to a group who showed up to protest a community forum that will go down in history. In 1994, members of the National Association for the Advancement of White People showed up at a forum in Howell and openly declared that they didn't want Black people living in their community.

Lett stood up, looked directly at the crowd, and calmly, but passionately informed them she would not be run out of her home.

"When I walk down the street, I'd like not to have cat calls or the N-word shouted at me," she said, staring into the eyes of men and women wearing hats emblazoned with "NAAWP" and "Anglo-Saxon."

She told the crowd how some of her family members served in the U.S. military, and were wounded in combat fighting for the American ideal that all people are created equal.

And when she called for some simple respect, saying "I give dignity and I want dignity," the crowd rocketed to its feet.

Lett never backed down from her devotion to diversity, continuing her activism and community involvement until her death at age 79. In fact, if you visit the Detroit Impact Youth Center on the city's west side, you'll find the Thelma Lett Library inside, a tribute to the many young people she taught to read and write.

And if you visit Howell, you'll find the Livingston Diversity Council continuing her work, inspired by the courage of her convictions, and still standing up to intolerance and hate.

Thelma Lett lived and died in Brighton, Michigan and made it abundantly clear her love for this country and all it stands for was far greater than the hatred she was shown. Brighton was her home, and today it is my honor in sharing her story.

RECOGNIZING THE NAMING OF AUTHERINE LUCY HALL ON THE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the naming of Autherine Lucy Hall on the campus of the University of Alabama. Autherine Lucy Foster was the first African-American student to integrate the University of Alabama in 1952.

After graduating from Miles College in 1952 with a degree in English, Autherine followed her aspirations of continuing her education by applying for graduate school at the University of Alabama. After sending in her initial request on September 4, 1952, she and her friend Pollie Anne Myers received letters welcoming them to the University of Alabama. However, upon submitting applications that indicated race, both women's admissions were revoked by university officials due to the university's "Whites only" policy. Once the community learned of both students not being admitted to

the university due to their race, two of the most prominent civil rights lawyers, Arthur Shores and Thurgood Marshall, began working on their behalf testing one of the most consequential Supreme Court cases in our history, *Brown v Board of Education of Topeka*. On June 28, 1955, just over a year after the *Brown* decision, U.S. District Judge Harlan Grooms heard their case ruling in favor of the women upholding the precedent of the Supreme Court and solidifying the legal eradication of the "separate but equal" policy.

In hopes of further discouraging Autherine and Pollie, the university hired private investigators to look into their backgrounds to find information that would ensure they could not attend. As a result of their efforts, Pollie was disqualified from admission, leaving Autherine to attend the university alone. Upon her attendance, Autherine experienced high-intensity adversity. She was denied dining and dormitory privileges and suffered multiple verbal and physical attacks from her White counterparts, which resulted in her being removed from the university by the Board of Trustees, claiming it was for her protection. With Autherine fearing for her life, Attorney Shores and Marshall stepped in on her behalf once again, filing an official complaint stating that the university had been complicit in permitting the crowd to intimidate and threaten Autherine. Unfortunately, they were unable to prove the university's role in the mob action, and despite withdrawing the complaint, the administration argued that through their actions, Autherine had defamed the school and its administration resulting in her expulsion.

Though she felt defeated at the moment, less than ten years later, her efforts to integrate the University of Alabama finally became a reality. Vivian Malone and James Hood enrolled at the University of Alabama in June 1963. Vivian went on to become the first African American to graduate from the University of Alabama, continuing the work of Autherine and opening the door for more students to follow in their footsteps. However, unbeknownst to her, it would take over thirty years for her own story to be completed at the University of Alabama.

Thirty-two years after her expulsion from the University of Alabama, she was asked to come back to the university as a guest speaker. With multiple faculty members advocating on her behalf to overturn her expulsion, she returned in 1989 to enroll as a student. Enrolling the same year as her daughter Grazia, they graduated together in 1992 to receive their respective graduate and undergraduate degrees. Ensuring that her legacy of bravery and tenacity lives on, the University of Alabama awarded Autherine with an honorary doctorate in 2019, a \$25,000 scholarship in her name and honored her with two land markers on campus—a historic marker in front of the newly named Autherine Lucy Hall and the Autherine Lucy Clock Tower.

On a personal note, as Alabama's first Black Congresswoman, it is a source of tremendous pride to celebrate the courage and sacrifice of Autherine Lucy Foster in integrating the University of Alabama. The naming of a campus building in her honor 70 years after she first enrolled in the university shows that delayed justice can lead to racial healing and reconciliation. It was because of her bravery and sheer audacity in the face of an incredible injustice that Black students attend

and graduate from the University of Alabama today. The university, the State of Alabama, and the nation owe Autherine Lucy Foster a debt of gratitude that can never truly be repaid. The naming of Autherine Lucy Hall will stand as a powerful reminder of the progress that can be achieved when this nation lives up to its best ideals of equality and justice for all.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary courage of Autherine Lucy Foster and the naming of Autherine Lucy Hall on the campus of the University of Alabama.

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 JUAN ALEJANDRO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true public servant, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Juan Alejandro, and congratulate him on his retirement from the Guam Army National Guard (GUARNG) after over 21 years of service to our island and nation.

Launching his military career in 1998, CW4 Alejandro first enlisted as a Military Occupational Skill (MOS) 25R, Audio, Visual Electronics Technician. He then served two years with the 3rd Psychological Operations Battalion in Fort Bragg, NC, and went on to complete both Warrant Officer Candidate School and the Army Aviation Flight Training Program. With a firm determination to build on his skills and expand his professional capacities, he later earned a bachelor's degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University alongside a minor in Management. Stepping into the field of aviation, CW4 Alejandro served as a Pilot in Command with the 1-25 Attack Aviation Battalion and 2-6 Cavalry Squadron, participated in three Operation Iraqi Freedom campaigns, and accumulated over 2,000 flight hours across 350 missions in combat.

Resigning from Active Duty in 2009, CW4 Alejandro joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard as a Maintenance Test Pilot, Instructor Pilot, and Commander of the Pennsylvania Counterdrug Joint Task Force Aviation. Throughout his six-year tenure, CW4 Alejandro coordinated numerous local, state, and federal counterdrug operations responsible for over \$20 million in drug and illegal weapon seizures, facilitated the successful transition between aircraft models, and developed crucial training and maintenance programs for the State's integration of the Lakota helicopter.

In 2015, CW4 Alejandro brought his expertise to the GUARNG and has since been a critical asset in standing up its Army Aviation program. Taking on significant roles as a State Aviation Safety Officer and Standardization Pilot, he has provided valuable guidance and support to our unit and enabled them to attain nearly 2,000 hours of flight, pass a multitude of high-level inspections, and assist the community with the completion of 13 Search and Rescue missions.

Having earned a wealth of recognitions that include two Meritorious Service Medals, five

Air Medals, six Army Commendation Medals, an Army Achievement Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal with 3 stars, Master Aviator Badge, Combat Action Badge, Parachutist Badge, and 2 Valor Devices, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Juan Alejandro demonstrates an outstanding commitment to excellence and leadership.

Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the People of Guam, his beloved wife Magdeline, and daughters Miranda, Melody, and Miriah, offering my greatest appreciation for his dedication to our island and country. I sincerely thank CW4 Alejandro for his many years of service and sacrifice, congratulate him on his well-earned retirement, and wish him the best during the next chapter of his life.

HONORING THE PAGE FENCE
GIANTS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Page Fence Giants, an all-black baseball team that was founded in 1894 in Adrian, Michigan. At a time when Jim Crow laws swept the nation and racial segregation largely divided sports, the all-black Page Fence Giants persevered, ultimately claiming their place in history in the Michigan Baseball Hall of Fame.

The team was founded by Bud Fowler and Grant "Home Run" Johnson, both of whom went on to play for the Giants. The team was a knockout, winning over 100 games in each of their four seasons. And in 1897 they went on a winning streak, claiming 82 consecutive victories. The team's four-year run was an early success towards integration—but was phased out of the league decades before Jackie Robinson's 1947 debut.

The Page Fence Giants traveled around the Midwest and Canada on a 60-foot railcar. While the team was celebrated and welcomed in some communities, they were discriminated against and disparaged in others, often barred from eating at the local restaurants or sleeping in the hotels. This railcar provided the basic necessities for the ball players when they were unwelcome to stay or dine in the whites-only establishments.

One of the full-time cooks on the train was William Wendell Gaskin, who is believed to be Lansing-born. Gaskin traveled with the team, cooking meals and even joining the team in a couple of games as the Giants' pitcher.

Last year, on June 19, our very own Lansing Lugnuts paid tribute to the Page Fence Giants by wearing historically accurate black and burgundy Giants jerseys.

While the Giants dissolved after four solid seasons in 1898, their contributions to sports and to Michigan's history will be forever remembered.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF ROY
TAYLOR

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of

Roy Taylor, a long-time friend and business leader in Somerset, Kentucky.

Roy and I shared a passion for broadcasting and advancing communications in rural southern Kentucky. He was incredibly talented in the world of technology and telecommunications. In fact, during his time with the U.S. Army, he was part of Special Forces and worked with the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he led highly classified military operations. Our nation owes Roy a great debt of gratitude for his brave service and dedication to our country.

When he returned home, Roy used his military training and education to advance telecommunications in the Lake Cumberland region. He first worked in sales and transmitter maintenance with WSSC radio and later invested in WTLO radio in Somerset, Kentucky. A visionary for telecommunications in our rural region, Roy was always one step ahead to connect our communities to the rest of the world through broadcasting access. He became a forerunner in the cable television industry through Burnside Comex Cable TV, writing franchise agreements and expanding access in our small communities. Thanks to his foresight and diligence, he literally crossed bridges for the first time, bringing cable to the city of Burnside and Burnside Marina. Following his success in the cable industry, Roy established CNI Wireless to focus on broadband connectivity in our rural region.

I frequently sought Roy's advice over the years and counted him as a trusted confidant and advisor. We sorted out a number of challenges and strategies together over lunch or a round of golf, because he believed in making the most out of every day; work was the main topic of conversation for Roy in every situation. He always stayed busy, focusing his time and energy on projects that could create more jobs and develop new opportunities for the Lake Cumberland region.

We have made great strides to advance technology across southern and eastern Kentucky over the last 40 years, thanks to leaders like Roy Taylor, who committed a lifetime of work and expertise to help make our rural region a better place to live. My wife Cynthia and I extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Taylor family and all those who were blessed to know our loyal friend.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF MS. CHANNING HILL

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of Ms. Channing Hill of Texas' 33rd District. Channing is an aspiring lawyer pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Strategic, Legal, and Management Communication at Howard University. She also has used almost all her life advocating for social justice and equality for all.

At only 20 years old, Channing has organized and led protests in public schools in her home state of Texas since her adolescence. Channing first found her voice in her NAACP Youth Council in Arlington, Texas. She now leads as the Howard University NAACP Chapter President and the Region 7 National

Youth-Works Committee Representative. This past fall, Channing continued her fight for social justice when she was one of eight student leaders to participate in the #Blackburn Takeover.

Now this month, her work is being honored at the highest level. On February 26th, she proudly received the NAACP Award for Youth Activist of the Year. This award recognizes NAACP members for their work to improve their community, educate the masses, identify the problems, and lead the revolution to fix them.

We are so proud of Channing for her work and for this accomplishment. We know her continued commitment to social justice and equity will make our community a better place for all.

HONORING BARBARA ROBERTS
MASON

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara Roberts Mason of Lansing as an internationally recognized voice for education, equality, and justice.

This exceptional public servant made Michigan history by becoming the first African American woman to be elected to statewide office. Serving 24 years on Michigan's State Board of Education, Barbara worked tirelessly as a child advocate to push for equal educational opportunities and high academic standards for all.

In 1986, she founded the Black Child and Family Institute in Lansing, which she considers one of her proudest accomplishments. She met with President Jimmy Carter on Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, and was a trailblazer for the Equal Rights Amendment campaign alongside legends like Gloria Steinem, Dorothy Height, and Mildred Jeffrey.

Barbara's advocacy and dedication to the service of others has taken her all over the globe. She has lectured abroad and led humanitarian, business, and education exchanges to Japan, Germany, Korea, Ghana, Cameroon, and South Africa. During her time as the President of Lansing's Regional Sister City Commission, she established an HIV-AIDS project in Ghana, as well as the construction and renovation of health clinics, schools, libraries, and worked towards clean water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Clearly, Barbara's humanitarian heart knows no bounds. For her outstanding merit and life accomplishments in service of her community, and the international community, Barbara received the honor of being inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 2014. When asked to give remarks, Barbara stated that she "strongly believes that if everyone would reach out and give help to someone in need, we'd all be better off." I agree, and I am so thankful for her commendable actions that made Michigan a better place.

For her tireless service to all those in need, it is my privilege to add her story so that many more will answer her call to service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SALARY TRANSPARENCY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Salary Transparency Act, which would require employers to provide the salary range for jobs in advertisements and interviews and to existing employees.

Several states have enacted laws relating to salary range disclosure, and the federal government should follow their lead and make this a nationwide requirement. Salary transparency is an important tool to combat the gender and race wage gap. Salary secrecy facilitates both intentional and unintentional pay discrimination and perpetuates the wage gap.

Studies have consistently shown that when women negotiate for their salaries, they negotiate for less than similarly situated men. Frequently, this is because the salary they request is a certain percentage higher than their current salary. Because women on average make less than men, this practice perpetuates the wage gap. The same is true for people of color, who earn less on average than their White counterparts. Requiring employers to disclose the salary range for a position will help eliminate this harmful portion of the negotiation and lead to a reduction in the wage gap for women and minorities.

This is the third pay equity bill I have introduced this Congress. My Pay Equity for All Act, which passed the House last year as part of the Paycheck Fairness Act, would prohibit employers from asking job applicants about their salary history, and my Fair Pay Act would require that men and women doing comparable work be paid comparable wages.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

DUCK BOAT SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2022

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Duck Boat Safety Improvement Act of 2022, a bill to implement safety regulations for amphibious passenger vessels, particularly those known as duck boats. These safety recommendations were made by federal agencies to address persistent problems associated with duck boats that have resulted in far too many injuries and fatalities.

I became much more aware of these problems when my constituents, the Coleman family, were involved in a horrible duck boat accident on July 19, 2018 in Branson, Missouri. Tia Coleman was one of only two survivors from her family of 11, losing her husband Glenn and her children Reece (nine years old), Evan (seven years old), and Arya (one year old). Tia's 13-year-old nephew, Donovan Coleman, was the other surviving family member, losing his mother Ance, his younger brother Maxwell (two years old), his uncles Ervin (76 years old) and Butch (70 years old), and his aunt Belinda (69 years old). Boarding

a duck boat on Table Rock Lake started out as a fun outing for family members, but turned into an unspeakable tragedy when the boat capsized and sank. Seventeen of the 31 passengers on board were killed.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and U.S. Coast Guard have separately investigated the incident and the last few aspects of the investigation should be completed soon.

But Congress should not wait to act. We know from past incidents that more can be done to make these vessels safer. Since 1999, more than 40 people have died in duck boats accidents, the vast majority of them from drowning when the vessel sinks. The NTSB in 2002 issued recommendations to improve the safety of the vessels in flooding or sinking situations but little has been done to implement those measures.

Duck boats are hybrid vehicles that can travel on roadways and waterways, so the safety measures must be updated for both land and waterborne operations.

The Duck Boat Safety Improvement Act will require vessel operators to implement commonsense boating safety measures, including: Improving reserve buoyancy and watertight compartmentalization to prevent sinking.

Requiring more monitoring and adherence to severe weather alerts and warnings,

Requiring release of road safety seatbelts when Duck Boats become waterborne,

Requiring stronger crew safety training and certification,

Removing or reconfigure canopies and window coverings for waterborne operations,

Requiring personal flotation devices for waterborne operations,

Requiring installation of better bilge pumps and alarms,

Installing underwater LED lights that activate automatically in emergencies, and

Complying with other Coast Guard boating safety requirements.

These basic safety requirements will help save lives and prevent future tragedies. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill to make commonsense corrections to the persistent safety problems facing duck boats so that no other family must suffer the kind of tragedy faced by my constituents on Table Rock Lake. I urge the House to support this bill.

HONORING LULU V. CHILDERS

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible contributions to musical history and to the history of Howell, Michigan made by one of the city's Black pioneers, Lulu Childers.

This remarkable woman was ultimately responsible for developing the small music program at Howard University in Washington, D.C., first into a Conservatory of Music, and then into a School of Music.

But before all that, she was a child in Howell, Michigan, the daughter of slaves, her parents brought her from Dry Ridge, Kentucky in 1875 at the age of five.

It was in Howell that the public was first treated to the gift of Lulu's voice. In the early

1880s, she performed regularly at the Howell Opera House and its neighboring Methodist Church on Walnut Street. By 17 she was singing at numerous fundraisers and events across the area and was billed as "Howell's Lulu Childers."

And in 1890, she walked across the stage as valedictorian of the Howell High School Class, and enrolled at Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio to study voice.

After graduation, Childers performed around the country but felt a tug to the classroom. She taught music in Ohio public schools for several years, and then in 1905, she joined the faculty of Howard University.

At the time, Lulu was one of only two music teachers at Howard. She taught voice, and another instructor taught piano. In 1906, Lulu was appointed Director of Music and steadily the program blossomed.

Lulu established a college-level curriculum, hired experienced instructors, and created the University Choral Society. When she led the chorus in song, the people turned out. At the 1929 Christmas service, Lulu drew a crowd so large that there was standing room only and 400 people had to be turned away.

Lulu also created an annual concert series that brought renowned musicians to the Washington community. In 1938 she invited the famed contralto, Marian Anderson, to perform. The performance gained national attention because both the Board of Education of Washington, D.C. and the Daughters of the American Revolution refused to let Anderson perform in their facilities because of her race.

Lulu used her voice, not just to sing, but to enlist the help of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt in the fight for equity and justice. She also took her advocacy to Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, who in turn invited Anderson to perform at the Lincoln Memorial, a free concert which drew 75,000 people on Easter Sunday of 1939.

One year later, Lulu retired from Howard University and returned to her family home in Howell, where she died in 1946.

It's so entirely fitting that ten years after her passing, the classroom portion of Howard University's fine arts complex was renamed Lulu V. Childers Hall.

Lulu Childers was born with the gift of voice, a gift she never took for granted. She used that voice to entertain, to instruct, and to advocate. She sang the anthem of freedom, justice, and equality with perfect pitch and tone. Let us all endeavor to use our own lives and our own voices to carry her tune, to continue singing her song, and to ensure that the music never ends.

IN HONOR OF THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAIRLANE TOWN CENTER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 45th Anniversary of Fairlane Town Center, located in Dearborn, Michigan. Fairlane Town Center is a mainstay in Dearborn and their contributions to our community are worthy of commendation.

Developed by Michigan businessman A. Alfred Taubman, Fairlane Town Center opened

to the public on March 1, 1976. Complete with an ice rink and a Ford monorail connecting the then-named Dearborn Hyatt Regency with the Center, at the time Fairlane was the shining example of what the modern shopping mall could be, right at home in Metro Detroit.

The businesses of Fairlane Town Center have come and gone over the years and hundreds of stores and services have called Fairlane home. When they opened in 1976, the mall was anchored by Sears and JCPenney, later joined by Hudson's, Lord & Taylor, and Saks Fifth Avenue. Now, it is anchored by Macy's and JCPenney—along with Ford Motor Company's innovative Town Center Office. Fairlane Town Center is a place where businesses thrive and has been a consistent supporter of the local economy, helping us all find the goods and services that we need—all in one place.

Fairlane Town Center has served as a shopping destination and gathering place for residents of Dearborn for the past 45 years. It has been where generations of Dearbornites have worked and played. Serving as home to budding small businesses and landmark department stores alike, there has always been something for everyone at Fairlane Town Center.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Fairlane Town Center as they celebrate 45 fantastic years of business in Dearborn, Michigan. As the times have changed, so has Fairlane in order to meet the needs of our consumers. As a fixture of our community for the last four decades, we wish them the very best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING PUERTO RICO
YOUTH AT RISK, INC.'S 25 YEARS
OF SERVICE AND ITS FOUNDER,
DR. MERCEDES CINTRÓN

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the work of Puerto Rico Youth at Risk, Inc.—Jóvenes de Puerto Rico en Riesgo, Inc., in Spanish—on its 25 years of service. I also want to congratulate the organization's founder, Dr. Mercedes Cintrón, who was recently selected as a finalist for the Lifetime Achievement Award during the National Mentoring Summit's 2022 Excellence in Mentoring Award Ceremony.

Puerto Rico Youth at Risk is a non-profit organization focused on developing school dropout and delinquency prevention programs for at-risk youth in Puerto Rico. Since 1996, they have carried out multiple initiatives to help at-risk students on the Island achieve their full potential, including through one-on-one mentoring services, personal and social development workshops, academic support, and community service experiences. Puerto Rico Youth at Risk has been highly successful, as 98 percent of students who participate in its various programs remain at school; 95 percent graduate from high school; and 70 percent of the program's graduates have gone on to pursue higher education studies.

On January 28, 2022, Dr. Mercedes Cintrón was nominated and selected as a finalist for

the 2022 Excellence in Mentoring Award Ceremony's Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes individuals who have dedicated their life's work to supporting youth through mentoring. Dr. Cintrón is a psychologist and social worker who has dedicated the last 28 years of her career and volunteer work to promote and facilitate the use of ontological mentoring to prevent school dropout and antisocial behavior in teens. She has witnessed over 3,000 successful mentoring experiences that have changed the lives of both mentors and mentees, many of whom have continued to serve in their communities.

In 1993, Dr. Cintrón pioneered the use of formal mentoring in Puerto Rico. She was inspired and committed to establishing Puerto Rico Youth at Risk after completing her term as Administrator of Puerto Rico's Juvenile Correctional Institutions, where she saw firsthand the need to carry out evidenced-based prevention and intervention programs to reach at-risk young individuals before it is too late.

Dr. Cintrón's selection as a finalist for the Excellence in Mentoring Award Ceremony's Lifetime Achievement Award is a testament to Puerto Rico Youth at Risk's impact and valuable work during the past 25 years. It also represents a historic milestone, as Dr. Cintrón was the only Puerto Rican among this year's nominees and the first individual from Puerto Rico to have been nominated for this prestigious award.

I'm honored to join Puerto Rico Youth at Risk to celebrate Dr. Cintrón's achievement and the organization's 25 years of service on behalf of Puerto Rico's at-risk and vulnerable students.

HONORING OLYMPIAN JAKE
VEDDER

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jake Vedder, a young man of exceptional character and talent who valiantly represented his home town of Pinckney, Michigan and Team USA at the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, China.

At the Olympics, Vedder finished sixth out of 32 competitors in the individual snowboard race, and was first among the four Americans competing. This 23-year-old phenom was also named to one of the two United States tandems for the inaugural mixed team snowboard cross event, where he and his partner made it to the quarterfinals.

Unlike many snowboarders, Jake wasn't born in the mountains and didn't grow up in a resort town. He's from Pinckney, population 2300, and he began his snowsports career at the age of two on the small but beloved ski hills in the neighboring town that were made with leftover material from the construction of the interstate.

He was a kid with a dream, a family that supported it, and a community that nurtured it. And as his star has risen, from winning the state championship as a 10th grader, to winning a gold medal in the Youth Olympics at

age 18, to competing on the world's biggest athletic stage at age 23, he's never forgotten where he comes from.

Jake is known for spending whatever free time he has dishing out encouragement to younger athletes, giving tips on techniques, handing out gear, and just being present to offer support. In fact, just hours after returning home from the Olympics, Jake was back at Mt. Brighton where it all began for him, cheering on high school snowboarders who were competing in the state meet.

No matter how high he jumps, how fast he races, or how far he travels, Jake clearly remains grounded. He is tethered by his hometown values, anchored by humility, and rooted in kindness. In an era where so many seek instant celebrity or viral fame, Jake's modest spirit and good nature are almost as impressive as his athletic accomplishments.

On and off the slopes, he is a leader and a role model who has made Pinckney so proud. I have no doubt that whatever the future holds for him, he will conquer it with the tenacity, discipline, and humanity that have already taken him so far. It is my great honor to inscribe his accomplishments in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
MAXWELL HUNTLEY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Maxwell (Max) Huntley and his service to Virginia's First District and the Nation.

Max earned his bachelor's degree in English and master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Michigan. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Military Operations from the United States Air Force Air Command and Staff College. As a NCAA All-American athlete, Max dominated the mats as the University of Michigan's first three-time wrestling team captain in the school's history.

Max joined my office in April 2017 and became my Military Legislative Assistant in February 2019 and Senior Advisor in May 2021. During his time serving Virginia's First District, Max admirably staffed my House Armed Services Committee, including my role as Sea power and Projection Forces Subcommittee Chairman and Ranking Member. Max labored tirelessly to advance the shared goal of a larger and more capable United States Navy and Marine Corps in an era of Great Power Competition.

Max has devoted his talents to the common good and the nation's defense as he follows the distinguished Huntley family tradition of service to the United States. I would like to thank Max for his contributions over the last 4 years. I wish Max the best as he continues his journey on the other side of the Capitol with Senator John Kennedy.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Max Huntley for his dedicated service to Virginia's First District. May God bless Max as he continues his career in public service.

REMEMBERING LORETTA SHAW
HARRISON

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Loretta Shaw Harrison.

Loretta S. Harrison was born in Verret, Louisiana, on February 1, 1956, the seventh child of twelve born to the late George W. Shaw, Sr. and Loretta Louise Moore Shaw. She passed away peacefully around family and friends on February 16, 2022, at the age of 66, after a brave battle with breast cancer. She is survived by three sons she adored, Robert, Rodrick, and Kendrick; two grandchildren; two godchildren; eight of her siblings; and many nephews, nieces, and friends.

Loretta was a faithful steward of God with the belief that if you "put God first, He will grant the wishes of your heart." She shared her unwavering love and dedication for God and the city of New Orleans with everyone she encountered. She was a woman with incredible grace and moral fortitude and was a guiding light to her friends and community.

Loretta, lovingly referred to as the "Praline Queen," was the chef and owner of the historic Loretta's Authentic Pralines, becoming the first African American woman to own and operate a praline company in New Orleans. She made friends and admirers worldwide through her shop and her long-standing record as a food vendor at the city's biggest festivals, starting with the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. Her mother made pralines after church for family and guests visiting their home. By age 8, Loretta was cooking them alongside her mom, using a recipe that went back to her great grandmother. After graduating from Southern University at New Orleans, she went to work at the LSU Medical Library, where she sold pralines to students on the side. In 1978, her big break came when she heard that the Jazz & Heritage Festival put out the call for a praline vendor. She won the contract, sold 1,500 pralines in two weekends, and continued to supply the festival for over 40 years. The success inspired her to leave her job and develop her business full time.

Unfortunately, success did not come without a few failures along the way. Yet, she believed in her product and herself. By 1983, she opened her first shop in Jax Brewery. Later, she moved to the French Market, and in the 1990s, by the grace of God, she opened a second, much larger shop and production kitchen in Faubourg Marigny that serves gumbo, seafood platters, stuffed peppers, and calas, as well as pie, cookies, and king cake. She was a proud entrepreneur who advocated for local business owners, cultural and culinary arts.

After Hurricane Katrina, she quickly returned to New Orleans and was a vocal advocate for small businesses in meetings with national and local officials. During this difficult time, her business was buoyed by her steadfast belief that anything which can be destroyed can be rebuilt. She took immediate action, changing her business model to include an online storefront and becoming a restaurant for reporters, emergency workers, and volunteers rebuilding

the city. She added plate lunches and dishes like gumbo, figuring people needed a place to grab a meal more than sweets. She would continue to evolve her menu and creations. She added praline filling to traditional beignets and even made beignets into sandwiches filled with crab cakes, eggs and bacon, and hamburger patties.

A veritable Renaissance Woman, she was a faithful member of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church. She was a wonder to all who knew and loved her, and she will be remembered fondly for her joyful spirit and relentless optimism, which served her well until God called her home. Through her heroic battle with cancer, Loretta has helped shower numerous heavenly graces and blessings upon all of those she loved so deeply, and we are eternally grateful. I was honored and blessed to have known Loretta Harrison, and send my prayers to her beloved family in this difficult time.

HONORING WILLARD WALKER

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Willard Walker, a civil rights era leader, devoted public servant, youth football coach, MSU alumnus, and friend to the Greater Lansing community. For more than 50 years, Mr. Walker has fought tirelessly for social justice, and the community is so much better for his efforts.

Raised in Columbus, Georgia, by his grandmother, he joined the military after graduating from Albany State University.

His first job out of the military was as a math teacher in Chicago. There, he fought to unite historically segregated schools. Willard met and married his first wife in Chicago, with whom he had two children. They eventually moved to Alabama, where Mr. Walker began work for the Birmingham Urban League, before arriving at Michigan State University in 1969, where he was the first Black student in the industrial relations department. He lived in Case Hall, a place he described as the epicenter for black student life.

Mr. Walker has been influential in both local and state government, serving under four City of Lansing Mayors in various roles, including director of the Human Resources and Community Services Department, and on the Lansing Police Commission. At the state level he served as director of Michigan's School-to-Work Office, director of the Michigan Department of Commerce, and deputy director of the Neighborhood Builders Alliance—just to name a few.

But beyond his many impressive titles, his work to ensure the Greater Lansing area is a more equitable and welcoming place is legendary. As a founding member of the Greater Lansing Area, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission, he was the first recipient of the Commission's MLK Legacy Award in 2010.

In 2018, the City of Lansing Parks and Recreation Department dedicated the former youth sports facility, Ridsdale Park, in his honor, and it is now known as the Willard Walker stadium at Ridsdale Park. It gives me great happiness to know that through these

awards and honors, his legacy of service will continue to provide a positive impact in the Greater Lansing community for generations to come.

Mr. Walker is married to his current wife Victoria where they have been residents of Lansing's historic Westside for over five decades. Two years ago, he returned to local government to serve the City of Lansing as a consultant in Human Relations and Community Service, a department he ran for over a decade.

It's an honor to represent a community leader like Mr. Willard Walker in Washington, and I am grateful for his personal and professional sacrifices to advance civil rights at the local, state, and national levels. May his efforts be forever celebrated, uplifted, and immortalized.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD JENKINS' OUTSTANDING MILITARY SERVICE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize World War Two veteran Richard Jenkins for his incredible role in liberating Czechoslovakia in May 1945. Today the Czech Republic will present him with an Honorary Commemorative Medal of Merit in Liberating Czechoslovakia during World War Two. Shortly after the attacks on Pearl Harbor, Mr. Jenkins and his brothers enlisted in the United States Military, leaving their home in Michigan. After training in Louisiana, Mr. Jenkins was assigned to be a member of the 8th Armored Division, 130th Ordnance Maintenance Battalion of the United States Army. He was then deployed to England in January 1945 for further training. After reaching Europe, the 8th Armored Division attempted to quickly push through the Hurtgen Forest on the border of Belgium and Germany. Mr. Jenkins provided crucial support to ensure the United States' success in the Battle of the Bulge. Mr. Jenkins and his ordnance provided the support needed by the 8th Armored Division as they successfully pushed back the German Army. Refueling and mechanical assistance were some of Mr. Jenkins' many roles in the 130th Ordnance, without this support the 8th Division may not have been able to traverse the thick Hurtgen forest. After success at the Battle of the Bulge, the 8th Armored Division transitioned toward Czechoslovakia. On May 8, 1945, Nazi Germany surrendered to the Allies, bringing an end to World War Two in the European Theater. Then, in late May, the 8th Armored Division was ordered to Czechoslovakia to assist in the processing of prisoners of war, operating displaced person camps, and guarding vital installations. The assistance of Mr. Jenkins and the 8th Armored Division was integral to the liberation of Czechoslovakia. The successful liberation of Czechoslovakia as a result of the impressive effort of U.S. troops and the citizens of Pilsen is still celebrated today. The Pilsen Festival in The Czech Republic celebrates the key assistance the United States and our troops played in liberating the country from Nazi rule. Without heroes like Mr. Jenkins, we may not be able to celebrate these freedoms.

Madam Speaker, I once again thank Richard Jenkins for his service to the United States and the assistance he provided in the Liberation of Czechoslovakia. Northeast Wisconsin can be proud that a hero like Mr. Jenkins is being honored by the Czech Republic for his service and sacrifice. I urge all colleagues to join me in recognizing these outstanding men and women.

LESSONS TO LEARN FROM THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 25, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, we are living through a major international event. My position on the Russia-Ukraine conflict has not changed, this is not our war and American forces need not be involved. Yet, Americans are still feeling the impact of this conflict, reminding us how dangerous our current policies of foreign reliance are in an international system inhabited with rogue regimes vying to be great powers.

Over the course of several decades, through two hot wars, and one cold war, the U.S. went abroad to defeat forces of evil and tyranny threatening America and the freedom loving world. After leaving the international system based on the rule of law, democracy, and human rights, America came home but its officials remained abroad placing international affairs above American security, economic development abroad over economic prosperity at home, and foreign supply chains over American ones.

In 2016, the American people through a collective voice announced its intention to return to our own domestic affairs, as the Founders intended, to disentangle from the system where foreign treaties and global corporations set our policy instead of the American people through their representatives. In short, to enjoy the security and liberty we had obtained for ourselves. But Mr. Biden has instead reverted to the old status quo.

Ukraine is over 6,000 miles from my state of Arizona, yet my constituents are still feeling the consequences of bad policy and poor gov-

ernance. The Biden Administration's decision making since the beginning has led to this conflict, signaling to foreign powers that such aggressive behavior is acceptable and intertwining the daily security and prosperity of the American people to actions of foreign adversaries, undermining their liberty as citizens of a secure power.

Mr. Biden from the first day tied the energy security of the American people to foreign regimes in the name of politics. To appease radical climate change activists, Mr. Biden cancelled the Keystone pipeline and crushed oil and gas permitting on federal lands. With domestic demand not changing, we went from energy independent and a net exporter to purchasing 600,000 barrels per day from Russia which has some of the worst emitting pipelines in the world. These oil and gas profits grant it geopolitical leverage over America and its allies and fuels the Russian war machine now attacking another nation.

U.S. imports of Russian goods since the Obama Administration are up over 22 percent. \$13 billion annually in mineral fuels, \$1.4 billion in iron and steel, nearly a billion in fertilizers, and the list goes on. A trade deficit of over \$13 billion with Russia who is attacking a neighboring state. With Russian economic production slowed due to conflict and the possibility that it could retaliate against sanctions, Russia can cut the U.S. and its allies off from products we critically need.

The damage reflected from foreign reliance does not end here, nor does Mr. Biden's involvement as the source of the pain. The U.S. is reliant on foreign adversaries for critical minerals needed to sustain our national defense, provide health care for our citizens, and more. Russia is particularly influential over American access to helium and uranium, with another foreign adversary, China, controlling other can't live without minerals. Yet Mr. Biden and this majority has killed mining projects across America, including copper and uranium mines in Arizona. Now our source of these materials is at war with another country and can turn off the flow of these materials to America based on how this conflict plays out.

And let's talk about NATO, the trigger point for this conflict. President Trump cogently noted that NATO members were in violation of their contractual obligation to fund their military forces at 2.5 percent of their GDP. But they

have been in breach of this agreement for decades. It is so bad that the German war minister reported that Germany had no military assets to contribute at this time.

Commentator Mark America explains it well: "Trump was not only right about European nations' contributions to NATO, but their underlying defense expenditures are cratering. Since Trump left, they've fallen off a cliff, with reports that the German Army couldn't deploy sufficient forces to repeal successfully much of anything. In short, Europe has left themselves virtually defenseless, with the brief exception of the period of Trump's presidency, with only new NATO member Poland substantially upholding the promise of expending at least two percent of their national GDP on defense. The United States has been bearing the burdens of defending Europe for most of a century now, yet we cannot get them to pay to defend themselves, and there is no will under the current administration in Washington, DC to hold NATO's feet to the fire. In 2020, Germany barely attained 1.57 percent of its GDP in defense spending, and that was after extensive prodding from President Trump. When he took office, the Germans were spending roughly 1.1 percent on defense. In short, don't look to Berlin for help."

So when my constituents ask me why does a conflict 6,000 miles from our border increase prices on Americans at the pump, dent their 401ks, and raise the cost of everyday goods, the answer is because Mr. Biden consistently makes decisions which put Americans last.

Rather than continuing the reorientation of governance towards American prosperity and security which started in 2016, Mr. Biden has turned back outward. But Americans are realizing who stands for and against them. On January 20, 2017, President Trump echoed the will of the American people when he said "from this day forward, it's only going to be America First . . . every decision on trade, on taxes, on immigration, on foreign affairs will be made to benefit American workers and American families." The last year, culminating in a foreign conflict we are not fighting hurting our country, shows the folly of straying from such a simple proclamation, and we must return to a government for the People.